

Application No. 09/877,549
Attorney Docket No. 50588/170

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1 (~~Currently Amended~~). A method for generating a list of channel favorites in an interactive television system, comprising:

- receiving a first notification, the first notification indicating a first channel activity;
- receiving a second notification, the second notification indicating a second channel activity;
- calculating a time difference between the first and the second notifications; and
- updating a channel favorites table based on the calculated time difference, wherein the favorites tables includes a field that signifies a favorites display preference for a way in which the channel favorites are displayed.

9 (~~Currently Amended~~). A method for generating a list of channel favorites in an interactive television system, comprising:

- receiving a first notification, the first notification indicating a first channel activity;
- receiving a second notification, the second notification indicating a second channel activity;
- calculating a time difference between the first and the second notifications; and
- updating a channel favorites table based on the calculated time difference, wherein the updating is performed if and only if the calculated time difference is larger than a threshold, wherein the threshold is about ten seconds.

25 (Original). An apparatus for creating favorite channels in interactive television system, comprising:

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means for receiving a first notification, the first notification indicating a first channel activity;

communicatively coupled to the means for receiving the first notification, means for receiving a second notification, the second notification indicating a second channel activity;

communicatively coupled to the means for receiving the second notification, means for calculating a time difference between the first and the second notifications; and

communicatively coupled to the calculating means, means for updating a channel favorites table based on the calculated time difference.

36 (Currently Amended). An apparatus for creating favorite channels in an interactive television system, comprising:

a processor;

a generation engine executable by the processor and capable to generate a list including at least one favorite channel based upon a selection of a channel; and

a display engine executable by the processor and capable to enable the display of the list, wherein the list includes a plurality of channels listed based upon the numbers of times the respective channels has been watched, wherein each appreciable contiguous period of time watching a program is counted as one time regardless of the length of the period.

79 (New). The method of claim 1, wherein the preference for a way in which the channel favorites are displayed is in a numerical order by channel number.

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80 (New). The method of claim 1, wherein the preference for a way in which the channel favorites are displayed is in an order based on a number of times of each favorite channel has been viewed.

81 (New). The method of claim 1, wherein the preference for a way in which the channel favorites are displayed is in an order based on cumulative viewing time per channel.